

Hataraku! Maou-sama! Short story

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### The Demons and Hero and High School Girl – Two billion dream

Even if the intense heat of summer which seemed to cook people continued, it did not stop two office ladies from making their way on the road to lunch.

“It can’t be, a salad and a drink add-on for just 700 yen! Hey Emi, do you want to go tomorrow?”

“That’s right, and there are a lot of choices for the spaghetti as well. There will probably be a lot of people since it just opened.”

Emi listened to Rika’s suggestion, and while nodding in satisfaction, she thought about ordering dessert this time as well as what should be done if Alas=Ramus came with them.

And then,

“Sorry Emi, can we take a slight detour?”

Rika, walking past the road next to the bank, walked towards the place selling lottery tickets.

“Please give me a set of consecutive numbers.”

After Rika quickly said this to the lady at the shop, she returned with an object which looked like a thin envelope.

“What is this?”

“Even if you ask what it is.....this is obviously lottery. The summer grand prize is going to be distributed soon. Didn’t you see the special programme on the news?”

“Ahh, now that you mention it.”

Emi remembered the interesting and strange report from an unknown place in the news about the queue in front of the lottery shop at Yurakucho.

“I’ve never bought lottery.”

“I see. Are you in fact the type to not buy? Or the type who want to buy but missed it?”

Even though she did not know the different types, but Emi was definitely the type to not buy.

“Aren’t there a lot of types? I’m not too clear about that.....”

“I was like that at the beginning too. And during the seasonal prize, I started with the mindset as a normal person to just try it out.”

Rika said that spring season is green dream, Summer season is summer, autumn season is Autumn, winter season had the biggest prize at the end of the year, such that the first prize is about as large as 3 billion yen.

“Then what is that? That one where a few billion can be taken away, that one.”

"For that, if no one wins the first prize, the prize for that week will be moved to the prize next week and continue to accumulate."

"Then 6 hundred million yen can be won at most."

Emi repeatedly looked at the envelope in Rika's hand and the shop selling lottery tickets.

"Oh, that look, it's the look of why don't I try buying it."

"Don't laugh at me okay. I just want to try it."

Even though it was misunderstood that she was attracted by the prize, she was interested, so she could not deny Rika's words.

"Since we're here, you should just buy it. Buying one ticket costs 300 yen, I feel that even if you get it and no prize is won, it can also be a lucky item to get dreams of having a lot of money."

"That's true."

It cannot be guaranteed that there will be a win anyway, and if you do not want to buy it, then it was guaranteed that there will not be a win.

"Since I'm here, I'll buy the same as Rika."

"I bought solid consecutive numbers, which would be ten single numbers okay!"

Even though she did not know what is solid, Emi just bought a set of ten consecutive numbers just like Rika in the end.

"3 hundred million yen huh."

Emi did not particularly want to have a lot of money in Japan, but she was not that free of desires that she did not want money.

Ignoring if the winning number was in the envelope, when she took them out----

"Mah.....even if I just win back the 3000 yen I paid, there will also be a sense of satisfaction."

she said these words which were lacking in dreams.

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"Rejected."

"T, there's no need to speak so loudly. It's just for trying out."

This was something which happened later in the day.

It was at the dinner table of Villa Rosa Sasazuka room 201 like usual. Ashiya was currently nagging Maou.

The cause was the lottery tickets which Emi had bought.

Seeing Chiho explain to Suzuno, who was exposed to the accumulated prize of the lottery in the television news just now but was not clear about the lottery system in Japan, Emi took out the actual items which she bought

coincidentally today. After Maou saw that, he expressed that he also wanted to buy it and then was met with full resistance from Ashiya.

“Firstly! Spending 3000 yen to buy 300 yen lottery tickets cannot be termed as a logical action!”

“That’s not right, if everything goes well, more money can be won right?”

“Please understand that there is such a system because people will not win in most of the situations! At the moment you bought it, they have already sucked 3000 yen profit from now, and then it’s like this!”

“The probability of winning in lottery is the lowest in gambling. You won’t lose if you don’t buy right?”

Urushihara, in his bad habit, tapped on the computer keyboard as he ate, said this after searching for the lottery website.

“And that’s how it is! I will approve of you just for today, Urushihara. Demon King-sama, it’s like what Urushihara said. Becoming frenzied and copying the actions of others is inadvisable.”

“I understand, I understand.”

“Seriously, Emilia. If you still have the restraint as the Hero, then do not get tempted by that greedy system.”

“Why do I have to be lectured by you like this for buying lottery.”

Emi glared at Ashiya, then after remembering some things, she shifted her gaze to Maou and Urushihara.

“But since you said that much, why don’t I defeat the demons like a Hero and use the money I received to buy equipment? I don’t think that the savings all of you have would be able to afford any piece of armour I own.”

“Ugh.....”

“Ashiya, hurry up and apologise, I don’t want to die because of lottery.”

“Kuhhh.....”

Ashiya’s face turned red with shame, and Emi fed Alas=Ramus white rice and fish in satisfaction.

“Then again, I heard that someone in some country won a prize which amounted to 2 billion yen after conversion and became a hot topic for some time.”

“2 billion yen?! Is there lottery like that?!”

Hearing Suzuno’s words, Maou jumped up in surprise.

“Ah, I have heard about that. The news about a university student working at a gas station in America.”

“For overseas, it’s not that uncommon for 10 billion level prizes. But these can’t be bought within Japan.”

“Is that so? I wanted to buy them online.”

“It seems like it’s illegal to login online to buy them in Japan. But it’s fine to buy them in person overseas. But even with that, it doesn’t really relate to us.”

Urushihara said this as he searched for the information of the people who had won large amount of prizes before.

“Obtaining so much money at such a young age, they will definitely become fallen.”

Maou listened to the information about lottery in an interested manner, while Ashiya alone stubbornly expressed his opinions against lottery. Suzuno listened calmly and did not rebuke.

"Ughhh.....b, but Bell, you're an inquisitor right, this kind of greedy topic....."

"The origin of Japanese lottery were the Fukujii implemented in order to donate money for maintenance of temples right? Even though it has the sin of greed, for the sake of the Church's facilities, I can still understand it as an inquisitor."

"Kuughh!"

"Mah mah Ashiya-san. My father will buy every time there is a huge prize but he hasn't spent more than 10,000 yen so far. But there's no need to buy it."

"Sasaki-san! I have waited long for you to say this!!"

"Ashiya, you're noisy."

Urushihara glared at Ashiya in pure irritation while using his computer with one hand at the same time.

"Wait a moment, Lucifer, don't eat and use the computer at the same time, you're being a negative influence on Alas=Ramus."

".....Alright, alright."

When Emi shifted her attention away from the computer and to the dining table----

"But, assuming, just assuming, if you get 2 billion yet right now, what would you do?"

It was as if a rock was thrown into the water surface known as the dinner table.

"~~~~~ ....."

"I like, tomatoes."

Hearing Urushihara's words, Maou and the others became silent. Alas=Ramus stuffed the cherry tomatoes in huge mouthfuls until her cheeks puffed up and said this in satisfaction.

"Rather than saying that it's 2 billion 'yen', it's more like a hindrance."

"That's true."

Emi agreed with what Maou said.

"And even if we get a lot of money here, we won't be able to use it in Ente Isla."

"And then again, you demons don't use money."

".....That's right."

Maou responded to Emi with gritted teeth.

"....."

Maou and Emi's conversation caused Chiho to feel a little sad, but she felt it was not the time to say such things, so she swallowed her words.

“Thinking about it normally, the first would be to move house.”

Unexpectedly, the one who spoke first was Ashiya.

“Even though I feel apologetic to everyone saying this, this apartment is a little small after all. When Demon King-sama works at night, it will not match up with the opening times of the bath house as well. In addition, having a bathroom in the house is more cost saving than going to the bath house. For me I would want to rent a condominium which is a little larger than the one right now.”

“Being so thrifty even though you have 2 billion yen, as expected for Ashiya----”

“Because even if I do owe an amount of money which does not match my status, I do not wish to corrode my values!”

Ashiya determinedly responded to Ursuhihara who had interrupted him.

“It’s two billion you know? Why do you want to rent? For a normal apartment, you can just buy the whole building.”

“If it’s like that, the miscellaneous fees will have to be paid. Thinking about it carefully, the management fee is a large amount, even if the whole building it bought, the management fees which have to be paid continuously would be hard to afford. And with the trends now, I don’t think it would be that easy to find tenants, collect rent and manage my own household affairs. More effort than just living in the house would have to be put in. After that.....that’s right, the washing machine should be fully automatic, then there’s still a microwave, stove, oven for baking fish.....then.....”

“.....Emilia.....”

“Bell, it’s a bit late to say this now. Even though they say these things, they are still demons. Even though they said that they want to move into a condominium and change all the electronics in the whole house, they are still demons okay.”

“Ahaha.....”

Seeing Suzuno and Emi’s cold stares, Chiho should only smile wryly.

“Then what are you thinking of, Urushihara.”

“Me? For me, first I want to completely upgrade my computer. Then again, why don’t I just buy a new one?”

“Do you have any dissatisfactions with the current one?”

“I’m very dissatisfied! The operating system is old, there’s not enough HDD or RAM. Once the weather is hot, the CPU will need to be placed in front of the fan. Currently, a computer cannot make it at all without a BD drive. And also I want a room which can be locked to keep Ashiya out, and has air-conditioning and windows.”

“.....Emilia.....”

“Even though they said such things.....”

“Ahaha.....”

“Hey, Ashiya, Urushihara, when you guys were thinking about it, Emi has treated both of you as idiots.”

Hearing Maou’s words, Urushihara and Ashiya directed their gazes to Emi.

“Then talk about what both of you are thinking about!”

"Hmm."

Suzuno ate the karaage which Chiho brought over in one mouthful and thought about it quietly.

"Nothing much for me, I have no interest in a lavish lifestyle. I'm going to keep the bare minimum needed to live my life and present the rest to the Church."

"Uwah, how boring."

Listening to the model answer from the inquisitor, Urushihara frowned obviously.

"Even though I am not Alsiel, I also think that having money exceeding your own status to call people to become fallen. At most I can only live a luxurious life on my life. Rather than that, it would be more meaningful to pass the money to people who have use it more effectively."

"How about Emilia....."

"Me? For me.....that's right."

"You better don't give boring answers like donating or saving it up."

"What's up with you since just now, saying boring non-stop is really rude."

"Mah mah, Suzuno-san, Urushihara-san is that kind of person....."

"Sigh, he is a demon after all."

Suzuno ate while pouting, while Emi said in a troubled manner.

"I want to build an electricity generator station."

~~~~~"HAH?"~~~~~

"Mama, volume~fu."

Emi's crazy answer caused everyone to widen their eyes in surprise. As for Emi, she was responding to Alas=Ramus in a flustered manner.

"Electricity generator station, what about that?"

Chiho asked for Emi's reasons.

"Erhm, it's actually not that exaggerated.....the fuel needed to run the electricity generating equipment would have to be bought as well. Then after that would probably be a new fridge and new microwave."

"Don't tell me you're talking about that? What you mentioned before....."

Fridge and microwave, hearing these two terms, Maou remembered something in his mind.

"Wanting to use electronics even after returning to Ente Isla....."

"Yes, that's it."

Emi punched the center of her palm lightly.

"I want to bring back electricity generating facilities back to my hometown village. And I also want agricultural machinery. If possible, I also want to transport electricity to the whole village to speed up the restoration process of the village."

"The scale is unexpectedly big."

"On the contrary, would 2 billion be enough.....?"

"Kuh.....why do I feel like I am the only one who lost....."

Until now, the three demons have been using the 2 billion for their own shallow benefits, and now they were feeling surprised because of what can be done with 2 billion.

"How about you, Demon King. Do you have any plans to efficiently use the 2 billion?"

Hearing the question from Emi whose mood suddenly became better, Maou frowned.

"Even though I have not thought about it from the angle of efficiently using it.....oh yes."

Maou put down his chopsticks and thought about it quietly.

"Deposit it into a few banks?"

"Maou! Because of that, we are being treated as idiots by Emilia! Think about something more Demon King like!"

Hearing Maou's plebeianism like answer, Urushihara who should be his comrade said this angrily.

"Let me put it this way. What I want to do is not to get a lot of money. 2 billion yen is not needed for just moving house, and I don't want to quit my job, I also feel that if I do the same as Emi and take it back to Ente Isla or the Demon World, it would be too early to do that.....and Ashiya won't allow me to buy lottery anyway."

"It's fine if you're just thinking about it, but using 3000 yen, such a large amount of money, on gambling is unforgivable."

"Ne? Even though it might be boring to say this. But even if we do get it, we might not be able to achieve what Ashiya described. After buying some new things, we can just save what's left."

"Maou-san, is not wasteful at all."

Chiho seemed to be interpreting Maou's answer positively, Alas=Ramus was tapping against the bowl where the miso soup was about to spill out.

"I want to try eating one honeydew or watermelon in one go."

"You'll get a stomachache."

"It feels fortunate to get a stomachache because of eating delicious things."

Hearing the cold tone in Emi's voice, Maou looked towards Chiho.

"What would Chi-chan do? Two billion."

"Asking me?"

"Ah, sorry Chiho-chan, Alas=Ramus, she....."

"It's fine."

Even though Emi watched in a panic at Alas=Ramus who had climbed onto Chiho's lap to eat at an unknown time, Chiho only smiled and hugged Alas=Ramus.

"That's true----, if Alas=Ramus-chan was older, I think she would think this way as well."

"Uu?"

Alas=Ramus, who monopolized all the cherry tomatoes on the dining table, looked up at Chiho.

Gently wiping away the salad mayonnaise at the corner of Alas=Ramus's mouth, Chiho opened her mouth and said,

"I want an apartment in the city, land included."

"Sasaki Chiho, at what age do you think Alas=Ramus would be when she wants this."

Urushihara raised an obvious question.

If she was just a little older, she would not have such a realistic wish.

"Ahh, of course Alas=Ramus wouldn't say she wants property? But.....ne, Alas=Ramus-chan."

"What is it? Chi-nee chan."

"Alas=Ramus-chan, what do you want the most right now?"

"Tomato!"

"And then?"

"Uh.....uh, then I want Suzu-nee chan's udon! Then....."

With Chiho's prompting, Alas=Ramus started to count on her fingers.

"A, Alas=Ramus-chan has been raised to be a child with a proper understanding of things, uu."

Suzuno blushed because the toddler mentioned her.

"MgRonalds burger, and small cucumbers, and potato chips."

"Potato chips? I don't remember letting you eat that kind of thing."

Seeing the surprised Emi, Alas=Ramus gave an innocent answer of a young child.

"Lucifer gave it to me."

"So we have to watch Alas=Ramus's diet.....and then the one behind, you better explain properly."

"T, that's not it! She seemed very interested after seeing me eat snacks, so I gave her a little bit, erhm, this!"

Ignoring Emi's killing aura towards Urushihara because he gave unhealthy food to a child, Alas=Ramus continued.

"And Alsiel's miso soup!"

"Demon King-sama, in order to add the tofu which Alas=Ramus likes into the miso soup next time, even though the groceries were just replenished today, I wish to apply for approval to go shopping for groceries tomorrow as well."

"Mah, that's fine....."

"So, what are you getting at?"

Chiho's 'apartment with land' were not consistent with the things which Alas=Ramus wanted at all.

Hearing Urushihara's question, Chiho looked around the dining table.

"Eh heh heh, as expected, nothing matched at all."

Chiho shut up in an awkward manner.

"....."

Seeing the side profile of Chiho in this manner, Maou and Emi sensed something and glanced at each other.

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Nine o' clock at night, Maou, Emi and Chiho was walking down Sasazuka street in a line.

As Chiho's parents allowed Chiho to go out at night because they trusted Maou and the others, Chiho frequently walked together with Maou, Ashiya, and Suzuno, at least two of them, but only today, Emi and Maou took on the task of going home with her together.

Maou used the basket on Dullahan II which he used to get to work to hold Chiho's things. Maou, Chiho, Emi and Alas=Ramus walked quickly on the streets of Sasazuka street which was as hot as a steamer even at night.

"I'm sorry Yusa-san, for getting you to make a detour."

"It's alright, I have to greet Chiho-chan's mother occasionally as well."

"It's fine if it's just a greeting, but please do not take Alas=Ramus out in front of Chi-chan's house."

"I know that."

Even though Chiho's mother knew of Alas=Ramus's existence, she only knew her as the child of Maou's relatives, if she saw Emi carrying her, it might cause some trouble.

"Chiho-chan, about the 2 billion yen just now."

"Yeah."

"The 'apartment with land' that Chiho-chan was talking about refers to Villa Rosa Sasazuka right."

"Looks like I was seen through, if you can say this."

Chiho showed an expression like a child whose prank has failed and looked up at Maou and Emi.

"It seems like that there are people who do not understand as well."

"Mah, if it was said, the atmosphere will become heavy. Isn't it good like this?"

"That' right, I also thought of this halfway through so I didn't continue."

Chiho looked like she was reflecting on what she did.

“.....”

Maou and Emi looked at each other, and like she did not see them do so, Chiho exhaled slowly.

Right now, perfectly full and being carried by Emi, what Alas=Ramus wanted was the dishes that she frequently ate at the dinner table.

What Chiho wanted was this apartment Villa Rosa Sasazuka.

The noisy and warm-hearted dinner time of the seven people gathered at the Demon Fortress.

“But, I don’t want to say anything which would make Maou-san and Yusa-san uncomfortable, so we better not talk about this anymore.”

Chiho said this, looking a little lonely.

Whether it was Maou or Emi, they have been asked by Chiho a few times in the past.

**“Is there any way for the people I like the most to get along?”**

Even though Maou and Emi sensed that this would make the innocent Chiho sad, their answer will not change.

**“There is no such method.”**

They answered this immediately.

But Chiho would not give up.

Because she did not give up, the hopes which she could not suppress will occasionally spill out.

To Chiho, it probably looked very cruel.

Because Chiho announced that she was going to destroy the current and future relationship between the both of them.

But,

“So, I think I will make it a goal in the future to act without telling anyone.”

“Hah?”

“W, what?”

Chiho looked towards Maou and Emi, a big smile on her face.

“Because I, will definitely not give up!”

Chiho’s power will never match Maou and the others, and even if she worked hard, it would probably not cause any changes on the current situation.

But even so, there was no need to give up, and no thoughts of giving up.

As for why, that was because the ‘present’ where enemies were happily co-existing definitely existed.

“I will.....definitely, not give up.”

“Chi-chan.....”

“Chiho-chan.....”

“I, will definitely buy the land of this apartment, then renovate the unneeded rooms into bathrooms! Then I will lock Urushihara-san into a soundproof room!”

“W, what did you say?!”

“You, you meant this when you said you won’t give up?!”

“I won’t give at anything! Maou-san, just this time, keep it from Ashiya-san and buy lottery! The first step is 3 hundred million yen!”

“Eh, wait a moment, didn’t you say that those younger than 18 years old cannot buy lottery?”

“Only those sold by the Japanese Sports Association have such a rule. The Summer Prize does not have an age limit. That means I just have to get my mother’s permission!”

The figures of the Demon King, Hero and high school girl chatting while walking through the residential area at night, to any bystanders, they looked like a group of young people who are on very good terms with one another.

The way home for the Demon King, Hero and high school girl set in peace, just like a dream. added a dash of colour to the uncertain future.

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